

working men and women in this country and to slash educational opportunities for those who seek a college education.

Why did they do it? They did it so they can pay for a tax cut to the wealthiest people in this country. The vast majority of their tax cut goes to the upper 5 percent of the people in this country. They have asked the children, they have asked our college students, and they have asked our pensioners to pay for it.

They say if the President does not agree to it, they are going to force the Government to default. If the Government defaults now, they are going to ask the pensioners once again to pay for it. They are going to ask the retirees to pay again. They are going to ask those people who get an income tax refund to pay again. They are going to ask homeowners with mortgages to pay again. They are prepared to ask everybody to pay in the country, except the wealthiest people in this country, for that tax cut.

They should not be allowed to force this Government to default to provide an unfair tax cut to the wealthiest people in this country.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO SEND A MESSAGE

(Mr. SCARBOROUGH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I looked at the cover of the U.S. News and World Report which talks about the death of the Democratic Party. I think all you have to do is listen to the last speakers that have been up here to understand why.

A few speakers ago, we had somebody come to the floor and said he was disgusted with the tax cuts, that we should take pride in the fact the deficit has gone down over the past year or two. What he does not tell you is he is proud of what has happened in the past year or two because he voted for the largest tax increase in the history of the world. He voted for taxes on seniors who they claim to protect. He voted for tax increases on working men and women they claim to protect. He voted for taxes on middle-class people who they claim to protect. He voted for taxes on small businesses that create jobs.

Now it just absolutely amaze me that the Democratic Party despises the jobmaker but loves the jobs. I mean, let us get real here. Read the cover of U.S. News and World Report and figure something out.

The American people are trying to send a message, and that is, "Get government off our backs and lower out taxes."

AMERICA MUST BE CONCERNED ABOUT A DEFAULT

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago Speaker GINGRICH went to New York, and he stood defiant to default, proclaiming, "I don't care if we have no executive offices and no bonds for 60 days, not this time."

Well, in order to counter that kind of extremism, the Republicans got a couple of their big campaign contributors from Wall Street to come down here to Washington yesterday and tell them not to be concerned.

I would suggest the American people have every reason to be concerned if we continue to pursue this approach of, "It's NEWT'S way or no way, even if it means the first default in the history of this great Nation." Indeed, perhaps our Republican colleagues would be well advised to read this morning's Washington Post and the comments of one of their senior Members, our colleague, the gentleman from New York [Mr. HOUGHTON], who says, "I think the whole thing is nuts. Nobody knows the potential impact. If you play this hand and lose, you can really do a lot of damage."

It is like threatening to explode an atom bomb in your own backyard. Yes, that is the approach. These Gingrichites who defaulted to the people on Medicare ought not to default to the rest of America as well.

DEMANDING FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE WELFARE, WELL-BEING, AND WHEREABOUTS OF JOURNALIST DAVID ROHDE

(Mr. LONGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LONGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that this morning, about 3 hours ago, the United Nations confirmed that the American journalist, David Rohde, who has been reported missing in Bosnian Serb territory, is alive and in Serbian hands. According to Clayton Jones, international editor of the Christian Science Monitor, a high-level Bosnian Serb official informed the United Nations Mr. Rohde is being held in a Bosnian Serb stronghold of Polje.

Mr. Rohde, the Monitor's East European correspondent, has not been heard from since last Saturday. I think it is an important message to send to the Bosnian Serb Government that we demand an immediate accounting of Mr. Rohde's whereabouts, his health and safety, and that we want to make it absolutely clear they will be held responsible for his safety.

In the context of the peace talks that are currently beginning in Dayton, it seems to me the entire integrity of the process rests on whether in fact these governments actually control the territory that they presume to control, and I call for David Rohde's immediate release and return to this country.

THE BIGGEST PENSION RAID IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTRY

(Mr. POMEROY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, 95 to 4, by a vote of 95 to 4 the Senate overwhelmingly rejected a House Republican proposal to remove solvency safeguards on private pension funds.

In the 1980's \$20 billion was yanked out of private pension funds, often the workers' own retirement funds, which were used to finance hostile takeovers that resulted in downsizing and restructuring, ultimately costing them their very jobs.

On three separate occasions, Congress put in place protections to preserve the solvency of these vital pension funds. Now, without so much as a hearing, House Republicans have sought to remove these protections so companies can yank money out of their pension funds. They estimate that \$40 billion will be pulled from private pension funds under their proposal.

When we sought a separate vote on this issue, we were rejected. It was included in the budget. And so now, without so much as a hearing, without so much as a separate vote, House Republicans are moving forward a proposal that would allow the biggest pension raid in the history of the country. They must be stopped.

AN HONORARY GEORGIAN FOR THE DAY

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today we in the Georgia delegation pick up a new Member. To the young men and women from Magnificent High School, I know this is shocking.

But as your own gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE], who for the day, as part of being on the losing side of the World Series, becomes an honorary Georgian. Here is State flag for him, a tomahawk. I am going to give him some of the other Georgia products off the floor, but in the meantime I yield to him, and I want him to show the American people that he is truly an Atlanta Brave for the day, and he is wearing a Braves tie.

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I do thank him for this gift and these other gifts. These really are very thrilling, and of course I am fulfilling my side of a bet here.

Because I have to admit any team that could beat the team that had the very best record in all of baseball in the past 40 years, any team that could beat the team that had the highest batting average in the past 40 years of any baseball team, any team that could beat the team that won going away by